

labour was precisely the fact that here was a very able woman who was not a Feminist—any more than he was. Indeed, largely under the influence of Mrs Creighton and of Mrs Frederic Harrison, she went so far, in the spring of 1889, ^{as to} append her name to the notorious manifesto, drafted by them and Mrs Humphry Ward, against the giving of the vote to women. Nowhere does the reader of *My Apprenticeship* admire her candour more than in her explanation of how she came to take this false step. She sees quite clearly and faces quite frankly the advantage which an able woman, in her day, had in being a woman.

"At the root of my anti-feminism lay the fact that I never myself suffered the disabilities assumed to arise from my sex. Quite the contrary, if I had been a man, family pressure and the public opinion of my class would have pushed me into a money-making profession, as a mere woman I could carve out a career of disinterested research. Moreover, in the craft I liad chosen a woman was privileged. As an investigator she aroused less suspicion than a man, and, through making the proceedings more agreeable, she gained better information. Further, in those days, a competent female writer on economic subjects had, to an enterprising editor, actually a scarcity value. Thus she secured immediate publication and, to judge by my own experience, was paid a higher rate than that obtained by male competitors of equal standing."

After which, there really is no more to be said.

So far as Co-operation was concerned, neither Alfred Marshall nor anyone else could keep her off the grass, once she had made up her own mind to tread it. It was dreary

enough grass, at first, months and months
were spent by
her in the country with her father, toiling
through files
of Congress Reports and the Co-operative
journals They
might not teach her to understand the
movement but
they did give her

"a bunch of keys key events, key technical terms
and key
personalities, by the use of which I could gain the
confidence of